

Senate File 2281 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2281
BY MCKINLEY

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to state core curriculum requirements for
- 2 prekindergarten through grade twelve and including effective
- 3 date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a, Code
2 Supplement 2009, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. Adopt rules that establish a core curriculum for
4 prekindergarten through grade twelve and requiring, beginning
5 with the students in the 2010-2011 school year graduating
6 class, high school graduation requirements for all students
7 in school districts and accredited nonpublic schools that
8 include at a minimum satisfactory completion of four years of
9 English and language arts, three years of mathematics, three
10 years of science, and three years of social studies. The core
11 curriculum adopted ~~shall address the core content standards~~
12 ~~in subsection 28 and the skills and knowledge students need~~
13 ~~to be successful in the twenty-first century by July 1, 2011,~~
14 for prekindergarten through grade twelve shall include English
15 language arts; mathematics; history and social science; and
16 science, technology, and engineering. ~~The core curriculum~~
17 ~~shall include social studies and twenty-first century learning~~
18 ~~skills which include but are not limited to civic literacy,~~
19 ~~health literacy, technology literacy, financial literacy, and~~
20 ~~employability skills; and shall address the curricular needs of~~
21 ~~students in kindergarten through grade twelve in those areas.~~
22 ~~The department shall further define the twenty-first century~~
23 ~~learning skills components by rule.~~

24 Sec. 2. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph b, Code
25 Supplement 2009, is amended by striking the paragraph.

26 Sec. 3. Section 256.9, Code Supplement 2009, is amended by
27 adding the following new subsection:

28 NEW SUBSECTION. 59. Grant waivers to school districts
29 and accredited nonpublic schools that are unable to meet the
30 deadlines established pursuant to section 280.3, subsection
31 3, for a core curriculum implementation plan, or for
32 implementation of the core curriculum or core curriculum
33 subject areas. However, a waiver granted pursuant to this
34 subsection shall be valid for not more than two years beyond
35 the deadline specified in section 280.3, subsection 3, for

1 which the waiver was granted. This subsection is repealed July
2 1, 2017.

3 Sec. 4. Section 280.3, Code 2009, is amended by adding the
4 following new subsection:

5 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. The board of directors of each public
6 school district and the authorities in charge of each nonpublic
7 school may file a written request with the department of
8 education asking that the department waive one or more of the
9 core curriculum plan or implementation deadlines specified in
10 subsection 3 pursuant to section 256.9, subsection 59. This
11 subsection is repealed July 1, 2017.

12 Sec. 5. CORE CURRICULUM MODEL. In developing the core
13 curriculum pursuant to section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph
14 "a", the state board of education shall use the curriculum
15 frameworks adopted by the state board of education for the
16 commonwealth of Massachusetts that were in use in that state in
17 fiscal year 2010.

18 Sec. 6. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
19 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
20 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
21 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
22 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
23 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
24 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
25 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
26 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
27 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
28 districts.

29 Sec. 7. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. The sections of this Act
30 enacting section 256.9, subsection 59, and enacting section
31 280.3, subsection 6, being deemed of immediate importance, take
32 effect upon enactment.

33 EXPLANATION

34 This bill requires the Iowa board of education to adopt by
35 July 1, 2011, as the state core curriculum, a core curriculum

1 modeled on the frameworks established and implemented in
2 2010 by the state board of education for the commonwealth of
3 Massachusetts for prekindergarten through grade 12 in English
4 language arts; mathematics; history and social science; and
5 science, technology, and engineering.

6 Currently, school districts and accredited nonpublic schools
7 must adopt at least one core curriculum subject area each
8 year for grades nine through 12, with full implementation
9 required by July 1, 2012; and must adopt an implementation
10 plan by July 1, 2012, which provides for full implementation
11 of the core curriculum for kindergarten through grade eight
12 by the 2014-2015 school year. The bill requires the director
13 of the department of education to grant waivers to school
14 districts and accredited nonpublic schools that cannot meet the
15 deadlines established in Code for the implementation of the
16 core curriculum and which submit to the department a waiver
17 request. A waiver can be allowed for not more than two years
18 beyond the deadline for which the waiver was granted. The
19 provisions related to the waiver are repealed July 1, 2017.

20 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
21 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
22 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
23 district from state school foundation aid received by the
24 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
25 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
26 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
27 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
28 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
29 mandates included in the bill.